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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODF-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 ACDA-12 IO-13 /084 W

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY BAF/BAK DATE 2/12/80

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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7226

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

F.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, KS, US

SUBJ: KOREAN PRESS REPORTS DELAY OF ARMS TRANSFER BILL

SUMMARY: ALL LOCAL KOREAN PRESS REPORTS REP ZABLOCKI'S

REMARKS ON PROBABLY POSTPONEMENT UNTIL 1978, IN CONNECTION

WITH PAK TONG-SON AFFAIR, OF HOUSE IF COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION

OF \$800 MILLION ARMS TRANSFER BILL FOR ROK. HOUSE RESOLUTION

CALLING FOR ROKG COOPERATION IN INVESTIGATION NOTED, BUT NOT

QUOTED. ROKG FONOFF DENIES RELATION WITH PAK AFFAIR. END SUMMARY.

1. ON OCTOBER 28, ALL KOREAN VERNACULAR PRESS CARRIED FRONT-

PAGE STORIES ON COMMENTS TO REPORTS MADE OCTOBER 27

BY CONGRESSMAN ZABLOCKI, TO EFFECT THAT HIS COMMITTEE WOULD

PROBABLY DELAY CONSIDERATION OF CAPTER ADMINISTRATION'S

BILL TO TURN OVER TO KOREA US MILITARY EQUIPMENT AS COMPEN-

SATION FOR TROOP WITHDRAWAL. REASON FOR POSTPONEMENT WAS

GIVEN AS KOREA'S DELAY IN INVESTIGATION OF CONGRESSIONAL

INFLUENCE-BUYING SCANDAL (PAK TONG-SON AFFAIR). STORIES

REPEAT THAT ZABLOCKI SAID HE HAD EXPRESSED HIS OPINION

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TO SECURITY ADVISOR BREZEZINSKI AND CONGRESSIONAL LIASON

OFFICER FRANK MOORE (PHONETIC) AND THEY HAD SEEMED TO UNDER-

STAND. STORIES ALSO QUOTE ZABLOCKI AS SAYING TIMING OF

BILL WAS BAD AND THAT, IF KOREA COOPERATES IN INVESTIGATION

OF PAK TONG-SON CASE, BILL WILL PROBABLY PASS NEXT YEAR.

2. ALL PAPERS ALSO NOTE THAT HOUSE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

COMMITTEE ON 10 27 PASSED WITHOUT DISSENT A RESOLUTION

DRAFTED BY HOUSE ETHICS COMMITTEE ASKING FOR ROKG'S FULL

COOPERATION IN INVESTIGATION OF INFLUENCE-BUYING SCANDAL.

NONE OF PAPERS QUOTES ANY OF TEXT OF RESOLUTION. TONGA

ILBO'S YI UNG-HUI PREDICTS THAT THIS RESOLUTION WILL COME

BEFORE FULL HOUSE ON OCTOBER 31. (NOTE: WIRELESS FILE

OCT 27 JUST RECEIVED REPORTS RESOLUTION WAS PASSED BY VOICE

VOTE OF FULL HOUSE ON OCTOBER 27).

3. ONLY TONGA ILBO 'MOST NEARLY INDEPENDENT VERNACULAR

DAILY' GOES ON, IN LAST PARAGRAPH, TO QUOTE REP EDWARD

DERWINSKI AS NOTING THAT TWO HUNDRED REPRESENTATIVES

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WILL VOTE AGAINST MILITARY AID TO KOREA, "ONLY TO DEMONSTRATE THEIR INNOCENCE."

4. ALMOST ALL PAPERS ALSO RAN SMALL COMPANION ARTICLE QUOTING COMMENT OF A FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL: IT IS NOT TRUE THAT CONSIDERATION OF THIS SPECIAL MILITARY AID BILL FOR KOREA HAS BEEN DELAYED BECAUSE OF PAK TONG-SON CASE. RATHER, A) FACT US ADMINISTRATION SENT BILL TO CONGRESS ON OCTOBER 19 AND B) CONGESTION OF LEGISLATIVE AGENDA BEFORE END OF SESSION SCHEDULED FOR NOVEMBER 4 ALREADY MEANT DIFFICULTIES FOR BOTH HOUSES TO PASS THIS BILL IN CURRENT SESSION.

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